(b) if so, the strategy proposed to be adopted for this purpose;

(c) the schemes submitted by the Government of Madhya Pradesh for increasing the production of cotton;

(d) the decision taken thereon; and

(e) the financial assistance proposed to be provided to Madhya Pradesh for the purpose during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The strategy is to increase the availability of seeds of improved varieties and hybrids, intensify plant protection measures and to strengthen transfer of technology for improved cultivation practices.

(c) and (d). No Scheme has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

(e) The Government of India propose to continue the Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) during the 8th Five Year Plan with enhanced outlay, inculding for Madhya Pradesh.

Pension to Freedom FT Ghters

*524. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases of freedom fighters of Indian national Army for grant of pension are still pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a personal hearing is given to those whose cases are rejected; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). All the applications received by the prescribed date i.e. 31-3-1982, have been considered and disposed of. Applications, however, continue to be received after this date. These applications are treated as delayed applications and are considered only if proper reasons for delay are given and the aplications are accompanied by documentary evidence from official records regarding the person having undergone the minimum suffering as per the scheme.

(c) Yes, Sir, if a person so represents.

(d) Does not arise.

Narp Programme

*525. SHRI ASHOK ANANDRAO DESHMUKH:
DR. RAVI MALLU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Agriculture Research Project (NARP) programme has been launched with the World Bank loan to strengthen the zonal research capabilities of State Agricultural Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof';

(c) whether an independent evaluation of NARP has been conducted so far;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the interest likely to be paid on above loan?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The project aims at strengthening permanently the capabilities of the State Agricultural Universities for conducting location specific production-oriented and need-based research in 120 agro-climatic zones of the country.

(c) As provided in the agreement with the World Bank, a mid-term review was conducted by a Joint Review Team comprising representatives from the